

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2019 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

Measure: HB 2716 - A

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*

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Date: May 31, 2019

Measure Description:

Requires communications made in support of or opposition to candidate or measure to identify whether candidate, petition committee or political committee authorized communication.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Justice (DOJ), Secretary of State (SOS)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

Analysis:

HB 2716- A requires that communications made in support of or opposition to a clearly identified candidate must state the name of the persons that paid for the communication. This includes the political committee, petition committee, or person paying for the communication, and the names of the five persons that have made the largest aggregate contributions of \$10,000 or more to the committee or person in the current election cycle; or the names of the individual, for-profit business entity or candidate who paid for the communication. The measure further outlines which persons, committees, donation types, and forms of communication this regulation does and does not apply to. The measure takes effect December 3, 2020.

This measure is anticipated to have no fiscal impact for Department of Justice.

Secretary of State anticipates that implementation of this measure will require one new position, a Compliance Specialist 2 (0.25 FTE in 2019-21, 1.00 FTE in 2021-23), at an estimated cost of \$47,422 General Fund in the 2019-21 biennium (\$42,677 in Personal Services and \$4,745 in Services and Supplies). This position will conduct investigations into potential violations and respond to an anticipated increase in inquiries about regulated communications.

Implementation of this measure at SOS will also require rulemaking, public education, and increased use of legal services; these costs are anticipated to be minimal overall, though legal costs could have a greater than minimal fiscal impact based on the number of contested cases related to this measure.

Note that it is possible that the costs related specifically to the implementation of the changes required by this bill could be absorbed by current agency staff, pending other changes needed to the agency’s budget in the 2019-21 biennium.